

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 00886 191311Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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P R 191202Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6998

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T AMMAN 0886

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, MO, US, IR

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 037577, AMMAN 0839

1. RIFAI ASKED ME TO SEE HIM FEBRUARY 19 IN CONNECTION WITH TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT TO MOROCCO. NOT HAVING RECEIVED REQUESTED TEXT OF NOTE SEEKING PERMISSION FOR TRANSFER FROM DEPARTMENT, WE GAVE RIFAI A FEW SENTENCES WHICH LISTED EQUIPMENT TO BE TRANSFERRED, NAMED THE RECIPIENT, NOTED JORDANIAN AGREEMENT NOT TO TRANSFER FURTHER, AND REQUESTED US PERMISSION TO MAKE TRANSFER TO A THIRD STATE.

2. WHEN I SAW RIFAI, WE DISCUSSED THE SENTENCED NOTED ABOVE. I SAID THAT PERHAPS WE WOULD HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR HIM OR A MORE PRECISE TEXT LATER.

3. WE REVIEWED ALSO THE VARIOUS STEPS IN THE TRANSFER AND I RELIED ON STATE REFTEL TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION. RIFAI WAS BRIEFED ON THE NEED TO PURCHASE THE RESIDUAL COST OF THE 106MM RECOILESS RIFLES AND ALSO ON THE COST OF A US AIRLIFT. HE INDICATED THAT JORDAN WOULD ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN IN WRITING FROM MOROCCO THE PAYBACK ARRANGEMENTS (F-5ES IN RETURN FOR F-5AS). HE SAID ALSO THAT HE WOULD TRY TO GET FROM THE MOROCCANS A SCHEDULE OF THEIR PROJECTED DELIVERIES OF F-5ES.

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4. RIFAI ASKED ABOUT AMMUNITION AND SPARE PARTS FOR THE F-5AS. I TOLD HIM THAT FROM OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE JORDAN PROGRAM THESE WOULD BE DIFFICULT ITEMS. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT JORDAN WOULD HAVE NONE TO SPARE AND WOULD LET THE MOROCCANS KNOW ACCORDINGLY.

5. WE ALSO REVIEWED THE EQUIPMENT TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM IRAN TO JORDAN AND THEN TO MOROCCO. I GAVE HIM A GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE STEPS TO BE FOLLOWED BEGINNING WITH THE INITIAL IRANIAN REQUEST FOR THE TRANSFER. IN EACH OF THESE INSTANCES (DIRECT TRANSFER FROM JORDAN AND IRANIAN TRANSFER VIA JORDAN) HE UNDERSTANDS THAT THE CONGRESS MUST BE NOTIFIED.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

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